

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 11-18 are pending in this case. Claims 1-7 are canceled by the present amendment. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Rick, et al., (US Pub. No. 2005/0078774, herein “Rick”) in view of Anzai (U.S. Patent No. 6,041,085); Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Rick in view of Anzai, further in view of an assertion of Applicant’s admitted prior art; and Claims 8 and 11-18 were indicated as allowed.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowability for Claims 8 and 11-18.

Claims 1-7 are canceled. Thus, the rejections of Claims 1-7 are moot.

Further, in light of the cancelation of Claims 1-7, pending Claims 8 and 11-18, which were indicated as allowable, are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number  
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/07)

Usha Munukutla-Parker  
Registration No. 61,939